

Volunteer Voice

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A newsletter for those in the volunteer and service sectors in Utah

America's Promise 10 Best Communities Contest



America's Promise is launching a new competition to honor great communities. The "100 Best Communities for Young People" is an annual competition that will provide national recognition for innovative efforts that are making a difference for America's children and youth.

Every city, town and local municipality in America is eligible for recognition. The "100 Best" will represent communities from all strands from the rich fabric of American life - rural, suburban and urban - and from all regions of the country. The "100 Best"



AmeriCorps members serving with the National Ability Center in Park City celebrated Earth Day by educating the Park City community about recycling.

will be divided among five regions of the country. Honorees will include communities of all types and sizes: urban, rural and suburban, large and small. Communities of all sizes are strongly encouraged to apply. Those communities selected among the "100 Best" will be celebrated at an

Americas Promise gala on September 21, 2005 in Washington, D.C. They'll also receive national and local media attention and help other communities by sharing their best practices.

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Calendar of Events

June

18 - AmeriCorps Program Directors Training, St. George
23-24 - "Homeland Security: Engaging the Community" training with Western Community Policing Institute, St. George

July

8 - Utah Volunteer Centers Association meeting
28-30 - Utah Youth Conference on Service

August

4-5 - 2005 National Conference on Community Volunteering and National Service in Washington, D.C.
13 - Kids Fest at Wheeler Farm, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Red Rock CERT: A Roaring Success



What do emergency managers, volunteers and HOSA students have in common? The Red Rock CERT WMD Exercise in Moab, Utah! On April 7-9, over 270 participants rolled up their sleeves to practice their CERT training, learn new skills from their colleagues and share success stories and challenges.

Sponsored by the Utah Department of Public Safety/Division of Emergency Services and Homeland Security and hosted by the Southern Utah Regional Citizen Corps Council, the Red Rock CERT involved many months of planning and hundreds of service hours by VISTA members, Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) from Northridge High School in Layton volunteered their time (some even giving up their Senior Prom!) to serve as moulage victims during the exercises, assist the Southern Baptist Disaster Services, American Red Cross and LDS Church with meals and help the design team with various logistical tasks.

Participants in the training and guest presenters included CERT team members and leaders, as well as representatives from the Department of Homeland Security, the Points of Light Foundation, the Utah Citizen Corps Council, Utah Emergency Management Association, Logan City Police Department and many more.

Congratulations to all who made the Red Rock CERT a roaring success!

AARP Andrus Award



Do you know an amazing senior volunteer? Then now is the time to nominate them for the Andrus Award for Community Service.

Named for the founder of AARP, Dr. Ethel Percy Andrus, the award honors an individual or couple who have been outstanding AARP volunteers and members and are making a powerful difference in their communities in ways that support AARP's mission, vision and strategic direction and that inspire others to volunteer.

One volunteer from each state will be recognized with this award.

To nominate visit http://www.aarp.org/about_aarp/community_service/a2004-04-09-andrus_nominationform.html or contact Carolyn Hunter at 801-567-2650. Nominations are accepted until July 1.

America's Promise Continued

other communities by sharing their best practices.

Applications are being accepted now through Friday, July 29, 2005, and must be filled out online at www.americaspromise.org. America's Promise staff will be available to help you create a winning application. They can be reached by phone at 800.365.0153 or e-mail at 100best@americaspromise.org.

Judging criteria for the "100 Best Communities for Young People" is based around the Five Promises. A winning application will demonstrate how each of the Five Promises is being fulfilled in the community. The Five Promises are a caring adult, a safe place, a healthy start, opportunities to learn marketable skills and opportunities to help others.



At left: A CERT Volunteer works with a Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) volunteer to treat a moulage victim at the Red Rock CERT exercise in Moab.